(D&R), CWC with representatives from both States was constituted to advice on the issue of raising of water level.

6. The Committee in its report of March, 2001 opined that the strengthening measures already implemented, the water level can be raised from 136 ft. to 142 ft. without endangering safety of dam. Further raising of water level to 152 ft. will be considered after balance strengthening measures are implemented.

7. The Report of the Expert Committee was filed in the Hon'ble Supreme Court and also sent to the State Governments of Kerala and Tamil Nadu. The Court asked the two State Governments to file their response.

8. Supreme Court has given a judgement dated 27.2.2006 directing the water level of Mullaperiyar dam to be raised to EL 142 feet.

Completion of Sardar Sarovar Project

1625. SHRI KANJIBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Sardar Sarovar Project is a multi-purpose proejct which will benefit the four States of Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan and Gujarat by way of sharing of irrigation facilities and power generation;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the proejct is facing acute shortage of funds which is hampering the completion of 101 kms. stretch of Narmada Main Canal;

(c) whether the State has made a request to the Central Government for additional funds to ensure the completion of the project;

(d) if so, whether the request of the State Government have been acceded to; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ): (a) The Sardar Sarovar Project is an inter-state multi-purpose project on the river Narmada in Gujarat. It is a joint venture with sharing

of irrigation and power from the project, among the states of Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan and Gujarat.

(e) to (e) At present, construction of main canal carrying water from Sardar Sarovar Dam upto Rajasthan border is completed upto 357 kms length out of its length of 458 kms in Gujarat. As reported by Government of Gujarat, it is planned to complete remaining 101 kms upto Rajasthan border by October, 2006.

Keeping in view the need to accelerate the construction of Narmada Main Canal and distributaries for early development of irrigation facilities in the command area of the project, the Government of India has decided to include Sardar Sarovar Project under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP). Under this Programme, Government of India has released Central Loan Assistance (CLA) grant of Rs. 4415.85 crore from the financial years 1996-97 to March, 2006 out of which Rs. 339.60 crore was released as grant during the financial year 2005-06.

The project or project component could be included in the programme of Central financial assistance on the basis of proposals submitted by the State Government and eligibility of project for inclusion in the programme as per eligibility criteria of the programme.

Handing over of various works to BBMC

†1626. SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether under the provisions of Punjab Reorganization Act, 1966 the management of Ropar, Ferozepur and Herike Head work had to be handed over to the Bhakra-Beas Management Board;

(b) if so, the reasons for not handing over the management of above head works to the Bhakra-Beas Management Board;

(c) the authority who was given the responsibility to implement the said provision under the above Act and who is accountable for not fulfilling this responsibility; and

(d) by when the management of all the above three head works will be handed over to the Bhakra-Beas Management Board?

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.